

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 DRC-01 /130 W

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R 111630Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4998

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EI

SUBJ: LYNCH INTENDS LEAD FIANNA FAIL IN NEXT ELECTION

1. IN LETTER RELEASED SEPT 10, EX-PM JACK LYNCH ASSURES PARTY OF HIS INTENTION "TO LEAD FIANNA FAIL SUCCESSFULLY IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION." PURPOSE OF NEW STATEMENT, LYNCH EXPLAINS, IS TO DISPEL DOUBTS ABOUT "LONG-TERM INTENTIONS" LEFT IN LAST PREVIOUS STATEMENT (OF AUG 31).

2. SEP 11 PAPERS ALSO CARRY LETTER FROM LYNCH'S WIFE. SHE SAYS SHE WILL SUPPORT HUSBAND "GLADLY" DESPITE PERSONAL PREFERENCE "NOT TO BE INVOLVED PROMINENTLY IN PUBLIC LIFE." SHE NOTES: "I AM NOT A DEVOTEE OF THE WOMEN'S LIBERATION CAMPAIGN, BECAUSE I RECOGNIZE THE SPECIAL POSITION OF MAN IN THIS GOD-MADE WORLD, BUT I DO APPRECIATE THE FRUSTRATIONS THAT, AT TIMES, MOTIVATE THE MEMBERS OF THAT ORGANIZATION."

3. COMMENT: OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS, THIS AFFAIR WILL PROBABLY EASE LYNCH'S POSITION IN HIS OWN PARTY, AS HIS THREAT OF RESIGNATION HIGHLIGHTED DIFFICULTY OF REPLACING HIM. COSGRAVE GOVT IS PROBABLY ALSO PLEASED TO FIND LYNCH REMAINING AS OPPOSITION LEADER. HE IS WIDELY VIEWED AS BEST GUARANTEE THAT BIPARTISAN POLICY

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WILL CONTINUE. TWO CURRENT MINISTERS--CRUISE O'BRIEN AND FITZGERALD-- HAVE BEEN CRITICIZED IN PRESS FOR "TRAPPING" LYNCH INTO BLUNDER OVER LITTLEJOHN AFFAIRS. WE SEE NO REASON TO SUPPOSE THAT THEY HAD "TRAP" IN MIND, BUT ALL IN GOVT WILL PROBABLY BE MORE CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN BIPARTISAN CONSULTATION ON ALGO-IRISH MATTERS IN FUTURE.

4. OVER LONGER TERM, LYNCH'S HANDLING OF LITTLEJOHN AFFAIR COULD WEAKEN HIS POSITION IN FIANNA FAIL. RESIGNATION THREATS ARE NOT CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE AS MERE POLITICAL TACTIC. LYNCH COULD RETURN TO HEROIC PROPORTIONS IF HE LED PARTY TO VICTORY IN GENERAL ELECTIONS, BUT ANOTHER FAILURE WOULD LEAD TO ACTIVE CONSIDERATION OF A REPLACEMENT.

MOORE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 11 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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